

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

Sub B²
1. (Original) A computer-implemented system for displaying graphical indicators instead of data in a field, comprising:

a user interface for generating condition structures in response to receiving graphical indicator conditions, the condition structures defining a relationship between the data, the graphical indicator conditions, and the corresponding graphical indicators;

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a graphical indicator engine, responsive to the graphical indicator conditions in the condition structures for the field for comparing the data to the graphical indicator conditions, the graphical indicator engine operative to output a display signal in response to the graphical condition matching the data; and

a display, responsive to the display signal, for replacing the data in the field with the graphical indicator identified by the condition structure.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the display comprises a memory storage for storing information that determines whether a field is capable of supporting display of graphical indicators.

3. (Once Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the graphical indicator engine comprises a memory storage for storing the condition structures and ~~associated~~ graphical indicator IDs that are associated with the condition structures and that determine the graphical indicators to be displayed.

4. (Once Amended) ~~The A~~ computer-implemented method for displaying graphical indicators instead of data in a field, comprising the steps of:

obtaining a display signal and graphical indicator conditions that determine when to display graphical indicators;

converting the graphical indicator conditions into condition structures that define a relationship between the data, the graphical indicator conditions, and the corresponding graphical indicators;

comparing the data to the graphical indicator conditions retrieved from the condition structures to determine if there is a match; and

displaying the graphical indicator or the data depending on the outcome of the data compared to the graphical indicator conditions.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the step of obtaining graphical indicator conditions further comprises the steps of:

requesting an option to set the graphical indicator conditions;

displaying graphical indicator condition options from which the user can choose;

determining if the condition structures exist by checking a memory storage;

converting the existing condition structures back into graphical indicator condition text;

displaying the graphical indicator condition text so that the user can understand the existing graphical indicator conditions; and

modifying the graphical indicator conditions by allowing the user to change or add to the existing graphical indicator condition text.

6. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of modifying the graphical indicator conditions further comprises the step of:

determining if a user is finished entering the graphical indicator conditions by asking the user to indicate when the user is finished.

7. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the step of comparing the data to the graphical indicator conditions further comprises the step of:

comparing the data in a prioritized order.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the step of displaying the graphical indicator or the data includes the steps of:

determining if there are more fields to test whether to display the graphical indicators;
filling a cache with the display signal that indicates whether to display a graphical indicator; and

for each field, displaying text data or a graphical indicator based on the display signal in the cache.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said step of determining if there are more fields comprises the steps of:

determining if there are more rows by asking if there is another row in a grid of data; and
determining if there are more columns by asking if there is another column in each row in the grid of data.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said step of filling a cache with the display signal comprises the steps of:

determining if the cache exists;
creating the cache if the cache does not exist; and
filling the cache with the display signal indicating whether or not graphical indicators should be displayed in the field.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said step of displaying text data or a graphical indicator comprises the steps of:

determining if the field is a task field or resource field by obtaining a field type;
obtaining the task type of the task field or the resource type of the resource field;
determining the graphical indicator conditions for the task type or resource type;
storing the graphical indicator conditions;
allowing the user to add more graphical indicator conditions;

comparing the data values to the graphical indicator conditions to find a matching graphical indicator ID;

retrieving the matching graphical indicator ID; and

displaying the graphical indicator associated with the matching graphical indicator ID.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said task type comprises a project summary task type, a summary task type, and a nonsummary task type and said resource type comprises a summary resource type and a nonsummary resource type.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the step of determining the graphical indicator conditions for the task type comprises obtaining task conditions for the project summary task type, the summary task type, and the nonsummary task type and the step of determining the graphical indicator conditions for the resource type comprises obtaining resource conditions for the summary resource type and the nonsummary resource type.

14. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of:
validating the graphical indicator conditions.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of validating the graphical indicator conditions includes the steps of:

validating test data by determining if the test data equals a pre-defined operation;

validating value data by determining if the value data is a legitimate field name or legitimate data; and

validating image data by determining if the image data is equal to pre-defined image data.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the step of validating the value data comprises the steps of:

determining if the value data is a field name or data;

if the value data is a field name, determining if the field type is legitimate; and

if the value data is data, determining if the data is legitimate.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of validating the graphical indicator conditions further comprises the step of:

displaying an error message when an error is found in the graphical indicator conditions.

18. (Once Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of:

storing the condition structures and the ~~associated~~ graphical indicator IDs that are associated with the condition structures and that determine the graphical indicators to be displayed.

19. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of:

displaying the data when hovering over the graphical indicators.

Please add the following new claims:

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20. (New) A computer-implemented system for displaying a graphical indicator instead of data in fields, comprising:

a user interface, operative to generate condition structures in response to receiving graphical indicator conditions, the condition structures defining a relationship between the data, the graphical indicator conditions, and the corresponding graphical indicator;

a graphical indicator engine, responsive to the graphical indicator conditions in the condition structures for each field, for comparing the data to the graphical indicator conditions, the graphical indicator engine operative to output a display signal in response to the graphical condition matching the data; and

a display, operative to fill a cache with the display signal to provide an indication of whether to display the graphical indicator and, for each field, display one of the data and the graphical indicator based on the display signal.

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21. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the display comprises a memory storage for storing information that determines whether each field is capable of supporting display of the graphical indicator.

22. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the graphical indicator engine comprises a memory storage for storing the condition structures and graphical indicator IDs that are associated with the condition structures and that determine the graphical indicator to be displayed.

23. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the user interface is operative to validate the graphical indicator conditions.

24. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the user interface is operative to validate test data by determining if the test data equals a pre-defined operation, validate value data by

determining if the value data is a legitimate field name or legitimate data, and validate image data by determining if the image data is equal to pre-defined image data.

25. (New) The system of claim 25, wherein user interface is operative to determine if the value data is a field name or data, if the value data is a field name, determine if the field type is legitimate, and if the value data is data, determine if the data is legitimate.

26. (New) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

obtaining a display signal and graphical indicator conditions that determine when to display graphical indicators;

validating the graphical indicator conditions, comprising the steps of

validating test data by determining if the test data equals a pre-defined operation,

validating value data by determining if the value data is a legitimate field name or legitimate data, and

validating image data by determining if the image data is equal to pre-defined image data;

converting the graphical indicator conditions into condition structures that define a relationship between the data, the graphical indicator conditions, and the corresponding graphical indicators;

comparing the data to the graphical indicator conditions retrieved from the condition structures to determine if there is a match; and

displaying one of the graphical indicator and the data depending on the outcome of the data compared to the graphical indicator conditions.

27. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the step of obtaining graphical indicator conditions further comprises the steps of:

requesting an option to set the graphical indicator conditions;

displaying graphical indicator condition options from which the user can choose;

determining if the condition structures exist by checking a memory storage;

converting the existing condition structures back into graphical indicator condition text;

displaying the graphical indicator condition text so that the user can understand the existing graphical indicator conditions; and

modifying the graphical indicator conditions by allowing the user to change or add to the existing graphical indicator condition text.

28. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the step of comparing the data to the graphical indicator conditions further comprises the step of comparing the data in a prioritized order.

29. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the step of displaying includes the steps of:

determining if there are fields to test whether to display the graphical indicators;
filling a cache with the display signal that indicates whether to display a graphical indicator; and
for each field, displaying one of text data and the graphical indicator based on the display signal in the cache.

30. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 29, wherein said step of filling a cache with the display signal comprises the steps of:

determining if the cache exists;
creating the cache if the cache does not exist; and
filling the cache with the display signal indicating whether or not graphical indicators should be displayed in the field.

31. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 29, wherein said step of displaying comprises the steps of:

determining if one of the fields is a task field or resource field by obtaining a field type;
obtaining the task type of the task field or the resource type of the resource field;
determining the graphical indicator conditions for the task type or resource type;
storing the graphical indicator conditions;
allowing the user to add more graphical indicator conditions;
comparing the data values to the graphical indicator conditions to find a matching graphical indicator ID;
retrieving the matching graphical indicator ID; and
displaying the graphical indicator associated with the matching graphical indicator ID.

32. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein said task type comprises a project summary task type, a summary task type, and a nonsummary task type and said resource type comprises a summary resource type and a nonsummary resource type.

33. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 32, wherein the step of determining the graphical indicator conditions for the task type comprises obtaining task conditions for the project summary task type, the summary task type, and the nonsummary task type and the step of determining the graphical indicator conditions for the resource type comprises obtaining resource conditions for the summary resource type and the nonsummary resource type.

34. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the step of validating the value data comprises the steps of:

determining if the value data is a field name or data;

if the value data is a field name, determining if the field type is legitimate; and

if the value data is data, determining if the data is legitimate.

35. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the step of validating the graphical indicator conditions further comprises the step of displaying an error message when an error is found in the graphical indicator conditions.

36. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 26, further comprising the step of storing the condition structures and the graphical indicator IDs that are associated with the condition structures and that determine the graphical indicators to be displayed.

37. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 26, further comprising the step of displaying the data when hovering a cursor over at least one of the graphical indicators.

38. (New) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of:

obtaining a display signal and graphical indicator conditions that determine when to display graphical indicators;

converting the graphical indicator conditions into condition structures that define a relationship between the data, the graphical indicator conditions, and the corresponding graphical indicators;

comparing the data to the graphical indicator conditions retrieved from the condition structures to determine if there is a match; and

displaying the graphical indicator or the data depending on the outcome of the data compared to the graphical indicator conditions, comprising the steps of

determining if there are more fields to test whether to display the graphical indicators,

filling a cache with the display signal that indicates whether to display the graphical indicator, and

for each field, displaying text data or the graphical indicator based on the display signal in the cache.

39. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 38, wherein the step of obtaining graphical indicator conditions further comprises the steps of:

requesting an option to set the graphical indicator conditions;

displaying graphical indicator condition options from which the user can choose;

determining if the condition structures exist by checking a memory storage;

converting the existing condition structures back into graphical indicator condition text;

displaying the graphical indicator condition text so that the user can understand the existing graphical indicator conditions; and

modifying the graphical indicator conditions by allowing the user to change or add to the existing graphical indicator condition text.

40. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 38, wherein the step of comparing the data to the graphical indicator conditions further comprises the step of:
comparing the data in a prioritized order.

41. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 38, wherein said step of filling the cache with the display signal comprises the steps of:
determining if the cache exists;
creating the cache if the cache does not exist; and
filling the cache with the display signal indicating whether or not graphical indicators should be displayed in the field.

42. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 38, wherein said step of displaying text data or the graphical indicator comprises the steps of:
determining if the field is a task field or resource field by obtaining a field type;
obtaining the task type of the task field or the resource type of the resource field;
determining the graphical indicator conditions for the task type or resource type;
storing the graphical indicator conditions;
allowing the user to add more graphical indicator conditions;
comparing the data values to the graphical indicator conditions to find a matching graphical indicator ID;
retrieving the matching graphical indicator ID; and
displaying the graphical indicator associated with the matching graphical indicator ID.

43. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 42, wherein said task type comprises a project summary task type, a summary task type, and a nonsummary task type and said resource type comprises a summary resource type and a nonsummary resource type.

44. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 43, wherein the step of determining the graphical indicator conditions for the task type comprises obtaining task conditions for the project summary task type, the summary task type, and the nonsummary task type and the step of

determining the graphical indicator conditions for the resource type comprises obtaining resource conditions for the summary resource type and the nonsummary resource type.

45. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 38, further comprising the step of: validating the graphical indicator conditions.

46. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 45, wherein the step of validating the graphical indicator conditions includes the steps of:

validating test data by determining if the test data equals a pre-defined operation;

validating value data by determining if the value data is a legitimate field name or legitimate data; and

validating image data by determining if the image data is equal to pre-defined image data.

47. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the step of validating the value data comprises the steps of:

determining if the value data is a field name or data;

if the value data is a field name, determining if the field type is legitimate; and

if the value data is data, determining if the data is legitimate.

48. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 45, wherein the step of validating the graphical indicator conditions further comprises the step of:

displaying an error message when an error is found in the graphical indicator conditions.

49. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 38, further comprising the step of:

storing the condition structures and the graphical indicator IDs that are associated with the condition structures and that determine the graphical indicators to be displayed.

50. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 38, further comprising the step of:

displaying the data when hovering over the graphical indicators.